Remarks

The above amendments are being made in order to eliminate multiple dependency and improper multiple dependency before calculation of the national filing fee for the United States. Should any multiple dependency remain, that is unattended, and the Patent and Trademark Office is requested to cancel any remaining multiple dependent claims without prejudice before calculation of the national filing fee for the United States.

The International Preliminary Examination report reaches the conclusion that claims 1 through 14 meet the requirements of novelty and inventive step (nonobviousness). It is submitted that the same result should occur in the United States.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

July 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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